

Agreement on a Green Denmark – Climate responsive land governance

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SUMMARY

In 2024, Denmark adopted the "Agreement on a Green Denmark," aiming to promote a comprehensive green transition in agriculture and climate responsive land governance of Danish agricultural land. □□ The parties to the agreement, from the agricultural industry, the nature conservation association, industrial businesses as well as the government and the Danish municipalities, represent a wide spectrum of diverse interests in Danish society. The agreement is considered groundbreaking both nationally and internationally, marking a paradigm shift in sustainability by combining environmental objectives with economic development. □□ Denmark will become the first country in the world to introduce a CO₂ tax on agriculture, with the ambition of achieving climate neutrality by 2045. A budget of DKK 50 billion (USD 7 billion) has been allocated for land acquisition and implementation of initiatives such as afforestation, wetland creation, and restoration of carbon-rich peatlands. Simultaneously, there will be an increased focus on innovation and new climate technologies, enabling agriculture to adapt to a greener economy without sacrificing productivity. □□ The agreement integrates considerations for nature conservation, agricultural development, and climate goals, envisioning Denmark as a global role model for green transition. □□ The agreement entails significant changes in the use of Danish agricultural land, and the planning and execution of extensive land use transformations are expected to involve substantial and diverse tasks for the land surveying profession, within e.g. mapping, planning, multifunctional land consolidation and acquisition of land rights. □□ The agreement aligns closely with several of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as its initiatives contribute to sustainable development and global efforts to address various environmental challenges. Land use transformations - with a multifunctional approach - will contribute to an improved aquatic environment in inland Danish waters, reduce climate impacts, and simultaneously provide much more space for nature while improving conditions for biodiversity and groundwater protection. □□ By integrating specific initiatives within agriculture, nature restoration, and climate

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responsive land governance with the objectives of the UN's SDGs, Denmark contributes to global solutions for environmental challenges. At the same time, Denmark's position as a pioneer in green transition and sustainable development is strengthened, creating long-term positive effects for both people and the environment. □

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